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Buckley Sister Retains Hope

Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I., Nov. 27—
The sister of William Buckley, who
was kidnaped by Moslem extrem-
ists in Beirut in 1984 and has been
reported dead, said she retains
hope that her brother is alive.

In what apparently was her first
public comment on her brother,
Maureen Maroney on Wednesday
discounted as "absurd" reports that
Buckley broke down under torture
and confessed before dying that he
worked for the Central Intelligence

Agency, The Providence Journal-
Bulletin said today.

"The truth is we don't know what
happened. We may never know.
And now all we can do is wait,"
Maroney, 48, said in an interview at
her Massachusetts home.

Buckley was kidnaped March 16,
1984, apparently by members of
the Islamic Jihad. Buckley's captors
reported in October 1985 that they
had executed him after he con-
fessed to working for the CIA, but
his body never was found.

The Washington Post reported
Tuesday that Buckley was chief of
the CIA station in Beirut. The story
also said Buckley probably died
months before his execution was
reported and that he had disclosed
information about CIA operations
after torture.